1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 9 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT SEATTLE 10 ROBERT KORTER and LINDA KORTER, 11 12 Plaintiffs, 13 Case No. v. 14 SALLIE MAE BANK and NAVIENT SOLUTIONS, INC., 15 Defendants. 16 **PLAINTIFFS' COMPLAINT** 17 Plaintiffs, ROBERT KORTER and LINDA KORTER, ("Plaintiffs") file this lawsuit for 18 19 damages, and other legal and equitable remedies, resulting from the illegal actions of SALLIE 20 MAE BANK and NAVIENT SOLUTIONS, INC. ("Defendants"), in negligently, knowingly, 21 and/or willfully contacting Plaintiff on Plaintiff's cellular telephone in violation of the Telephone 22 Consumer Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. § 227 et seq. ("TCPA"). 23 24 25 PLAINTIFFS' COMPLAINT 1

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### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 1. Jurisdiction in this Court is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 as Plaintiffs' claims arise under the laws of the United States.
- 2. This Court has federal question jurisdiction because this case arises out of violations of federal law. 47 U.S.C. §227(b); *Mims v. Arrow Fin. Servs., LLC*, 132 S. Ct. 740 (2012).
- 3. Defendant conducts business in Vancouver, Clark County, Washington.
- Venue and personal jurisdiction in this District are proper because Defendant transacts business in this District, and a material portion of the events at issue occurred in this District.

#### **PARTIES**

- 5. Plaintiffs are residents of Vancouver, Clark County, Washington.
- 6. In April 2014, Sallie Mae Bank spun off its loan servicing division and created Navient Solutions, Inc.
- 7. Navient is a publicly traded U.S. corporation based in Wilmington, Delaware.
- 8. Navient services and collects on student loans.
- 9. Navient manages approximately \$300 billion in student loans for over 12 million consumers.

#### **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

- 10. Plaintiff, LINDA KORTER, applied for and received student loans through Sallie Mae Bank.
- 11. All of the telephone calls Defendants made to Plaintiffs were an attempt to collect on Plaintiffs' student loans.
- 12. None of the calls Defendants made to Plaintiffs were for an emergency purpose.

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13. Within four (4) years of Plaintiffs filing this Complaint, Defendants called Plaintiff's, ROBERT KORTER'S, cellular telephone xxx-xxx-8977 to service and collect on Plaintiffs' student loans.

- 14. Within four (4) years of Plaintiffs filing this Complaint, Defendants called Plaintiff's, LINDA KORTER'S, cellular telephone xxx-xxx-9122 to service and collect on Plaintiffs' student loans.
- 15. Within four (4) years of Plaintiffs filing this Complaint, Defendants also called Plaintiffs' other cellular telephone xxx-xxx-4657 to service and collect on Plaintiffs' student loans.
- 16. Within four (4) years of Plaintiff filing this Complaint, Plaintiffs spoke to Defendant on the phone and requested Defendant stop calling Plaintiffs' cellular telephones.
- 17. Despite Plaintiff's requests that Defendants stop calling Plaintiffs cellular telephones,

  Defendants continued to call Plaintiffs' cellular telephones.
- 18. Within four (4) years of Plaintiffs filing this Complaint, Plaintiffs sent Defendants a cease and desist request.
- 19. Despite receiving Plaintiffs' cease and desist request, Defendants continued to call Plaintiffs' cellular telephones.
- 20. All of the calls Navient Solutions, Inc., made to Plaintiffs' cellular telephones were made with the Noble Systems Dialer.
- 21. Prior to calling Plaintiffs' cellular telephone, Defendants knew Plaintiffs' numbers were cellular telephone numbers.
- 22. All of the calls Defendants made to Plaintiffs' cellular telephones resulted in Plaintiffs incurring a charge for incoming calls.

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23.	During	at l	least	one	conver	sation,	Defenda	nts	learned	that	Plaintiffs	wanted	Defend	lants
	to stop	call	ing P	laint	tiffs' ce	llular t	elephone	s.						

- 24. Even if at one point Defendants had permission to call Plaintiffs' cellular telephones, Plaintiffs revoked this consent.
- 25. Defendants continued to call Plaintiffs' cellular telephones after Defendants knew Plaintiffs wanted the calls to stop.
- 26. Within 4 years of Plaintiffs filing this Complaint, Defendants used an automatic telephone dialing system to call Plaintiffs' cellular telephones.
- 27. Within 4 years of Plaintiffs filing this Complaint, Defendants called Plaintiffs' cellular telephones in predictive mode.
- 28. Within 4 years of Plaintiffs filing this Complaint, Defendants left pre-recorded voicemail messages for Plaintiffs on Plaintiffs' cellular telephones.
- 29. Within 4 years of Plaintiffs filing this Complaint, Defendants left voicemail messages from live operators for Plaintiffs on Plaintiffs' cellular telephones.
- 30. The telephone dialer system Defendants used to call Plaintiffs' cellular telephones has the capacity to store telephone numbers.
- 31. The telephone dialer system Defendants used to call Plaintiffs' cellular telephones has the capacity to call stored telephone numbers automatically.
- 32. The telephone dialer system Defendants used to call Plaintiffs' cellular telephones has the capacity to call stored telephone numbers without human intervention.
- 33. The telephone dialer system Defendants used to call Plaintiffs' cellular telephones has the capacity to call telephone numbers in sequential order.
- 34. The telephone dialer system Defendants used to call Plaintiffs' cellular telephones has

the capacity to call telephone numbers randomly.

- 35. The telephone dialer system Defendants used to call Plaintiffs' cellular telephones selects telephone numbers to be called according to a protocol or strategy entered by Defendants.
- 36. The telephone dialer system Defendants used to call Plaintiffs' cellular telephones simultaneously calls multiple consumers.
- 37. While Defendants called Plaintiffs' cellular telephones, Plaintiffs' cellular telephone lines were unavailable for legitimate use during the unwanted calls.

# DEFENDANT VIOLATED THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT

- 38. Defendants' conduct violated the TCPA by:
  - a. Placing non-emergency telephone calls to Plaintiffs' cellular telephones using an automatic telephone dialing system and/or pre-recorded or artificial voice in violation of 47 U.S.C. § 227 (b)(1)(A)(iii).

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs, ROBERT KORTER and LINDA KORTER, respectfully request judgment be entered against Defendants, SALLIE MAE BANK and NAVIENT SOLUTIONS, INC. for the following:

- 39. As a result of Defendants' negligent violations of 47 U.S.C. 227(b)(1), Plaintiffs are entitled to and request \$500.00 in statutory damages, for each and every violation, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 227(b)(3)(B).
- 40. As a result of Defendants' willful and/or knowing violations of 47 U.S.C. 227(b)(1), Plaintiffs are entitled to and request treble damages, as provided by statute, up to \$1,500.00, for each and every violation, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 227(b)(3)(B) and 47 U.S.C. 227(b)(3)(C).

PLAINTIFFS' COMPLAINT

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41. Plaintiffs are entitled to and seek injunctive relief prohibiting such conduct in the future												
42. Any other relief that this Honorable Court deems appropriate.												
DATED: July 5, 2016 RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,												
By: /s/ Sharon D. Cousineau												
Sharon D. Cousineau												
700 West Evergreen Blvd.												
Tel. 360-750-3789												
sdcousineau@gmail.com												
	42. Any other relief that this Honorable Court deems appropriate.  DATED: July 5, 2016  RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,  By: /s/_Sharon D. Cousineau Sharon D. Cousineau Samwel Cousineau, PC 700 West Evergreen Blvd. Vancouver, WA 98660 Tel. 360-750-3789 Fax 360-750-3788											